THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH I ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) Six drilling rigs were received as gift from the Government of USSR, under a Protocol signed in October, 1987, for cons- miction of tubewells in drought affected States.

(b) Presently, these machines have been I deployed in the States of Rajasthan, Guja-] rat and Madhya Pradesh for construction of tubewells in the drought affected areas.

(c) No specific criteria has been laid down by the Government for deployment of these machines.

Implementation of Ond Area Development Project in Orissa with U.K. assislance

3387. SHRI KAHNU CHARAN LENKA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) Whether Orissa Government has submitted a proposal to the Central Government for the implementation of the TInd Area Development Project with assis- fance from the U.K.;

(b) if so, the number of districts to be covered by the Project and the cost of the project; and

<c) what action has been taken by Central Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Insurance of Cargoes meant far U.S.A. with the Export Credit Guarantee Corporation

3388. SHRI S. MADHAVAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that due to rise in the incidence of bankruptcy among US companies Indian exporters are facing difficulties in getting their payments;

(b) whether it is a fact that only 13% of the cargoes exported to the United States were insured with the Export Credit Guar antee Corporation in 1989; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken to impress upon the Indian exporters to get their consignments insured ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU) : (a) While there is rise in me incidence of bankrupting of US Companies, this has not had any appreciable impact on Indian Exporters.

(b) In the year 1988-89, 14.35% of the cargoes exported to the USA were insured with Export Credit Guarantee Corporation.

(c) The following taken :—

steps hare been*

(1) In order to caution Indian exporters, advertisements have been issued in various newspapers and magazines.

(2) Seminars and workshops are organised for the benefit of exporters.

(3) Need for export credit insurance as a protection against increasing incidence of bankruptcies is emphasised in various fora.

Demand for removal of Ceiling on Export of Cotton Yarn by Textile Spinning Industry in South

3389. SHRI S. MADHAVAN : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the textile spinning industry | in South has demanded removal of the ceiling on export of cotton yarn;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in the matter; and

(c) whether Government propose to encourage export of value added yarn instead of exporting cotton ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) There have been representations from various sectors for increasing

the ceiling on export of cotton yam. Some spinning mills have also represented for removal of export ceiling. Government allows export of cotton yarn within a limited ceiling so as to ensure adequate supplies! at reasonable prices to the domestic sector including decentralized powerloom and handloom weavers. In view of higher overseas demand and the record cotton production in the country, Government recently raised the ceiling fixed for export of cotton yarn during 1990 from 40 million Kgs. to 70 million Kgs. The exports of cotton have also been allowed so as to pass on the benefit of higher international prices to cotton growers.

Exemption of Foot-valves from Excise duty

3390. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE : will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have fully exempted Foot-valves, an essential component of pipe fittings of certain specifications from the purview of excise duty with a view to promitting efficiency of agricultural pumps, in the Union Budget for 1990-91;

(b) whether it is a fact that M. S. Couplings, also known as Socket, are also an essential component of pipe fittings used in agricultural pumps;

(c) if so, what are the reasons for which Sockets have not been exempted as a whole from the purview of excise duty;

(d) whether West Bengal Socket Manufactures Association. Howrah have made representations for exempting M. S. Couplings (Sockets) from the purview of excise duty; and

(e) if so, the action taken thereon ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI) : (a) Government have exempted foot-valves of certain ISI specifications, which are generally used in centrifugal pumps for agricultural purposes.

fbj to (e) M. S. Coupling have multi-faiious uses apart from their use in agricultural pumps. Government had received representations from the West Bengal Socket Manufacturers Association, Howrah for exempting M. S. Couplings (Sockets) ; fktom excise duty. Their request was examined but was not acceded to.

Introduction of Franking Machines in various departments of Government of India

3391. SHRI MOHD. KHALEELUR RAHMAN : Will the Minister of FIN ANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether, in the wake of economy in non-Plan expenditure launched by his Ministry, he has at any stage considered the expediency of introducing Franking Machines in all the Ministries and Departments, Attached and Subordinate Officials; nationalised banks, insurance corporations and in all other big public sector undertakings with a view to cut down expenditure on import of paper for printing of stamps, and other incidentals pertaining thereto; and

(b) if not, what are the reasons there-! for ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI) : (a) and (b) Although Ministry of Finance have not issued any instructions in this regard, the Department of Posts have, from time to time, issued Circulars to all Ministries/Departments/ State Governments stressing the advantage of using Franking Machines particularly from the angle of curbing expenditure on use of paper for printing of stamps etc.

Workers' Participation in the management of HDC

3392. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) what are the details and outlines of the scheme as introduced by the ITDC Management in pursuance of Governments decision regarding workers' participation in the Management;

(b) the names of the ITDC units departments/activities and the manner in which the workers' participative scheme is being implemented there till date; and

(c) the date from which the scheme is being implemented and the election/nomination of the respective bodies that took place last in each unit/division of ITDC ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK) : (a)